

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CA-01 SCS-06 L-03 PM-05

NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-10 NSAE-00 /070 W

-----001238 292013Z /73

R 290345Z AUG 78

FM AMEMBASSY KABUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 9768

INFO AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI

AMEMBASSY TEHRAN

C O N F I D E N T I A L KABUL 6973

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: OGEN, PEPR, AF, PK

SUBJECT: VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR RELATIONS: AFGHAN
POSITION

REF: KABUL 7243 (10/16/77)

1. THE EMBASSY HAS LEARNED THAT, CONTRARY TO PREVIOUS INFORMATION WE HAD RECEIVED FROM A DOUDIST ERA AFGHAN CONSULAR OFFICIAL, AFGHANISTAN IS NOT REPEAT NOT A SIGNATORY TO THE VIENNA CONVENTION ON CONSULAR RELATIONS AND THE OPTIONAL PROTOCOL ON DISPUTES.

2. ON AUGUST 22, POYANDA MOHAMMAD KOSHANI, DIRECTOR OF THE AFGHAN FOREIGN MINISTRY'S CONSULAR AFFAIRS SECTION, TOLD THE EMBASSY'S POLITICAL COUNSELOR THAT AFGHANISTAN HAD NOT ACCEDED TO THE CONVENTION BECAUSE OF A "POLITICAL PROBLEM." WHEN PRESSED FOR THE NATURE OF THAT PROBLEM, KOSHANI EXPLAINED THAT AFGHANISTAN MAINTAINS CONSULAR OFFICES IN PZYLAWAR, QUETTA, AND KARACHI -- CITIES WHICH ARE LOCATED WITHIN TERRITORY WHICH POST-1947 AFGHAN GOVERNMENTS COULD NOT REGARD AS COMING UNDER THE FULL SOVEREIGNTY OF "ANOTHER STATE" (E.E., PAKISTAN). FOR THIS REASON,
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THE AFGHANS HAVE WANTED TO AVOID THE SOVEREIGNTY IMPLICATIONS OF THE CONVENTION. KOSHANI ALSO THOUGHT THAT THIS REASON WOULD MILITATE AGAINST HIS GOVERNMENT'S EVER NEGOTIATING A BILATERAL CONSULAR AGREEMENT WITH THE U.S., BECAUSE THE AFGHANS WANT TO AVOID SETTING ANY PRECEDENT WHICH WOULD INVITE THE PAKISTANIS TO REQUEST A SIMILAR TREATY.

3. COMMENT: THE BARRIER IS THE HOARY PUSHTUNISTAN ISSUE, AN
OBSTACLE WHICH IS NOT LIKELY TO BE REMOVED IN THE FORESEEABLE
FUTURE.
DUBS

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NNN

Message Attributes

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Decaption Note:
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